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COUNTRY	Germany (Soviet Zone)	REPORT NO.	25X1 69
TOPIC	Military Information from the Templin and Schweinrich Training Areas		
EVALUATION	25X1	PLACE OBTAINED	25X1
DATE OF CONTENT	1 to 16 September 1951		
DATE OBTAINED		DATE PREPARED	25X1
REFERENCES	25X1		
PAGES	2	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)	
REMARKS			

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1. During the first half of September 1951, components of the units [] left the troop camp in the Templin training area for a period of two or three days. They took their full equipment which included tanks, artillery pieces and trucks. Officers said that the units held field exercises in the Gross Doelin area. (1)
2. About 120 officers and 500 EM, wearing red-bordered black epaulets and equipped with 25 T-34 tanks, 33 rocket launchers [] were unloaded from a troop train which arrived at the Zehdenick railroad station from the direction of Templin on 8 September. The unit departed toward Ribbeck and, on 11 September, moved into Camp Vogelsang. (2)
3. A train standing at the Zehdenick railroad station on 12 September consisted of 12 boxcars with troops and an undetermined number of flatcars carrying 16 medium AT guns and T-34 tanks. According to a railroadman, the train came from Templin and was to proceed via Velten. (3)
4. Soviet women who arrived in the Templin training area in early September were assigned to the individual troop units. The officers were recently issued new gas masks which were kept in cloth bags. The gas masks themselves were not seen []
5. Columns of Soviet troops with tanks, AT guns, artillery pieces, trucks and three amphibious vehicles were seen moving along the Hammelspring-Vogelsang road during the night of 16 September. Numerous headlights indicated that more columns were moving along the roads leading from the road to the troop camp. (4)
6. Between 14 and 16 September, it was observed that the Schweinrich-Rheinsberg road was blocked by a double barrier about

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- 2 -

SECURITY INFORMATION

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2 km east of Schweinrich, and was guarded by sentries. About 50 to 60 soldiers who were seen on top of Heideberg (hill), about 2 km southeast of Schweinrich, were scanning the terrain south of the hill. Other troops were seen advancing toward the hill from a southerly direction in extended order. A resident of Hasslow stated that, during an exercise on the night of 13 September, a unit defended the town against an attacking unit. The troops fired blank cartridges during the exercise.

7. Sentries standing on the eastern edge of Himmelpfort blocked all eastbound traffic on 15 September. Other sentries blocking eastbound traffic were seen on the eastern edge of Bredereiche on the evening of the same day. The firing of rocket launchers was heard from Bredereiche during the night of 15 September, the impact area was apparently near the town. Residents of Dannenwalde, Boltenhof, Barsdorf and Blumenow stated that no troops had practiced in that area during the last days, but that troops had allegedly conducted field exercises in the area north of the Havel River. (5)

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Comments.

(1)

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the tank regiments of the 25th Tank Div [] are thus confirmed in the Templin area until the beginning of September 1951.

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the train carried a component of the 25th Tank Div. But [] must have been mistaken with regard to the number of rocket launchers because the T/O of a tank division provides for only one rocket launcher battalion. However, there is the possibility that the rocket launcher unit on the train did not belong to the 25th Tank Div.

(3)

The train is reported for the first time. The identity of the unit on it cannot be determined.

(4)

Probably a night exercise.

(5)

Himmelpfort and Bredereiche are located on the western edge of the Templin troop training grounds. The Dannenwalde-Blumenow area adjoins these two localities to the south.

(6)

The trucks observed at the Schweinrich troop training grounds belong to the 6th Gds Heez Div and are reported from that area for the first time.

(7)

The information from the two troop training grounds does not indicate any preparations for maneuvers involving two or more divisions prior to mid-September 1951.

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